

# Grapevine

Travis brings  
Holiday Cheer  
to the Home



*Photo by Chris Williams*

*Living at the Veterans Home of California in Yountville – December 8, 2006*



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GRAPEVINE  
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## From the Administrator's Desk ...

We are all having those thoughts which come to us this time of the year. It is a time to celebrate -- and a time to remember. Our enjoyment of the moment is accompanied by memories of special times from the past and those people with whom we shared them. Our thoughts of those whom we have lost need not be sad. The special place they have in our hearts should be a part of the celebration. They all contributed to who we are and the life we are free to enjoy.

The second Thursday of each month is important to us. The Remembrance Service is held at 10 a.m. in the Chapel, and it is a chance to salute and say farewell to those who have been an essential part in the long history of the Home. Also, we have a chance then to contribute to those memories for the families they leave behind. The stories that are told from our personal recollections become a part of their cherished recollections of their loved ones.

This month, the Remembrance Service will be on December 14<sup>th</sup> at 10 a.m. The changing of the season and anticipation of the events to come, make for a service of particular importance. Join us in the chapel for a fond and loving farewell to those who have made us who we are.



**Marcella McCormack,  
Administrator**



**Alan Jessen, Assistant  
Hospital Administrator**

## Power Mobility Devices Electric Mobility Policy VH 08-0550

Along with seasonal rain comes an increase in the use of electric mobility devices. Just as a reminder, it is the policy of the Veterans Home that no electric mobility devices may enter any buildings unless they have a license plate on the back issued by the Prosthetics Department (in OT/PT). The only exceptions are the escort and mail room devices which also must have some mark on the device indicating it as an Escort or Mail Room device.

### *The two types of licenses are:*

- White with Blue letters – A medical device identified as such by a physician.
- Green with Yellow Letters – A medical device that is self purchased by the Home member that may or may not be medically necessary.

All other devices, such as two-wheeled scooters and motorcycles, are self-purchased convenience devices. They are not allowed to be charged inside buildings. They do not have batteries that meet fire/ safety codes, nor qualify as

*Continued on page 3*

# Travis Returns!

by Chris Williams

We all have markers for the seasons. Remember a few weeks ago when you first felt a tang in the air and thought, "Summer's over -- fall is on its way."? So, when does the Christmas season start? Stores pushed it back to Thanksgiving, and, now, they're doing promotions

before Halloween. When are we supposed to feel that holiday cheer?

At the Veterans Home of California at Yountville, it's easy. It's when the men and women from Travis Air Force Base arrive to decorate the place. They arrived in force. Tech Sergeant Kevin Harding said they had more volunteers than needed, and finally settled on about eighty that they could accommodate in the bus and private transportation. Susan Heims had "battle plans" already drawn up with assignments to specific locations.

*Continued on page 4*

*Continued from page 2*

medical devices, and may be unsafe in design. Owners have no formal training on their use.

As always, bicycles, tricycles, non-medical scooters, and motorcycles cannot be ridden on sidewalks or buildings. Golf carts are restricted to the roadway only. The only exception is getting to and from the building's parking spot for these devices.

If you are a Home member who does not have a license on your electric mobility device, please make an appointment with OT/PT to receive a license. If you do not display your license you may not enter any building unless it is displayed.

December 8, 2006



Because the Travis "Elves" were everywhere at once ... as elves do ... it took several photographers to capture the work in progress. Thank you Grapevine photographers Neil Remnant, Chris Williams, and Lou Zauner.





*Continued from page 3*

Right on schedule (as you would expect), they fanned out through the hospital and grounds to their duties. Then, the fun began. They asked residents' opinions as they went along and took the time to swap stories.

Most outside the hospital were finished by lunch; then took time to chat with veterans.

Holderman Hospital lobby was a different story. The fifteen foot tall tree proved to be a challenge to Air Force ingenuity. It came in two parts and the ladder barely reached to the top of the nine-foot section. The remaining six feet was too heavy to lift, so acrobatics were called for. Cpl Adam Raterink climbed atop the entrance doorway, and the tree was brought to him. Voila!

Now on to get the star on top.

There's always a kind of sag in spirits after Christmas, but we will have something to look forward to. Travis volunteers will be back on December 29<sup>th</sup> to decorate for the New Years party. See you then!



## Holiday Cheer with Travis

*By Lou Zauner*

Arriving on Friday, December 1, at 8 a.m. 80 Travis Air Base personnel again came to the Home to volunteer their important and generous mission of "decking the halls," which includes the Hospital, each Section, the Recreation Building and more. Working with the Home-provided decorations until 3 p.m., the energetic and efficient Travis "elves" once again brought brightness and Christmas cheer to the Home Members.

A few days earlier, Travis volunteers had come to Section F to decorate a special tree that was completed with the proverbial electric train at its base. Travis Air Base volunteers will again visit the Home after Christmas to decorate for New Year's Eve festivities.

Thank you, Travis Air Base friends for your dedicated annual mission to see that the Veterans Home is colorful and cheerful for the Holiday Season. 🎄





# ❀ Paws with Brandy ❀

*right: My new friend Master Sergeant Carol Pierce.*

## Feelin' a Lot Like Christmas

Every once in a while, somebody asks me, "Are you a veteran?" Well, I have to tell you, dearies, I almost feel like one. I've lived here almost my whole life so you would expect some military to rub off, wouldn't you? When all the people from Travis arrived in uniform, I fell into line. Susan Heims and TSgt Kevin Harding divided us into platoons and sent us on our mission. They were all in cammies (I just learned that word), and I felt conspicuous.

"Pst, Brandy!" somebody whispered. "Don't worry. With your complexion, you'll blend in just fine." She introduced herself as MSgt Carol Pierce, and I knew I had made a friend. She's only been back from the Near East since September, and she and her husband had both volunteered for this mission.

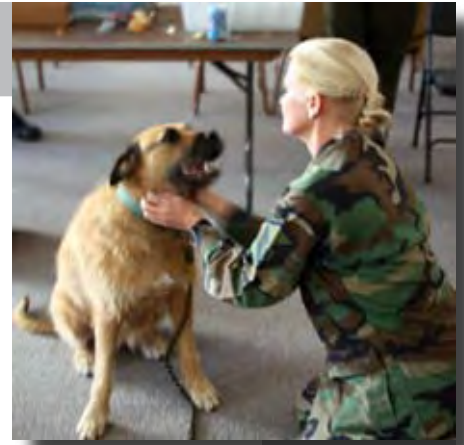
We got our assignment -- Lee Lounge. I didn't know it had been taken over.



As we passed through the hospital lobby, others from Travis were pushing huge boxes of Christmas decorations. I finally understood: the nearly eighty men and women had come to help us get ready. You never saw such energy, and I wondered if I could keep up.

*Continued on page 6*

*below: During their lunch break, the Travis personnel visited with Home Members. Here Jim Brannan trades stories with Sgts King and Leven.*







*Continued from page 5*

We said not a word, but went straight to our work. With so many willing hands it all went quickly, Carol and I had some time to play, and I enjoyed some good scratches. ("Scratch" -- sort of like a scratch, but administered with care and precision.) We wandered over to Grant Hall to offer help. They were ahead of us. The whole place will look nice for the holidays. ❀





## AMVETS Post 101 Veterans Home of California, Yountville takes Thanksgiving to Palo Alto VA Medical Center.

*By Neil Remnant*

On Sunday, November 19, 2006 several Home Member journeyed to Palo Alto to help bring an early Thanksgiving dinner to the 80 patients of the VA hospital. Dick Hum, Past AMVET Post Commander and Neil Remnant, Present Commander were joined by Jane Hum, Post 101 Auxiliary member, and Post Members George Shepard and John Makovec to carry turkeys and otherwise help prepare the traditional Thanksgiving dinner. They also visited with patients who were veterans of various wars including Iraq and Afghanistan. Some patients have suffered mental damage including head/brain injury and P.T.S.D. AMVET Post 101 provided funds for some of the turkeys and trimmings.

Our AMVET post has provided funds previously for Summer BBQ's at the hospital.

Rick Dougherty and George Cutler, Purple Heart Veterans, of our Yountville home were coordinators for this and other summer BBQ projects. They have been active with programs for Palo Alto for several years.

Many of the young warriors from Iraq and Afghanistan, who are being treated now in Palo Alto for brain injuries, may well complete their recovery at our Home when the transitional Rehabilitation Center opens up in Section G. Opening is tentatively scheduled for mid 2007.

Another trip is being planned by Rick Dougherty and his group for a return to Palo Alto with Christmas gifts on December 21, 2006.



*Dick Hum, Jane Hum, and Neil Remnant talk with a veteran of Iraq.*



*Andrea Duprey, Therapist Coordinator at Palo Alto.*

# Yountville 18<sup>th</sup> Annual Festival of Lights

*By Nancy Bueno; photos by Nancy Bueno, Glen Nock*



The Festival of Lights heralds the beginning of the holiday season in Yountville. This annual holiday event features live entertainment, children's activities, carolers, horse-drawn carriage rides and, of course, the fabulous food and wine of our area.

The event lined Washington and included Vintage 1870 and Washington Square. The weather was beautiful and the crowds ... well, enormous! It was fun tasting the food, sampling the wine, and chatting with out-of-towners who admire our wonderful Yountville. One couple had not heard about the Festival but had come to town for dinner. They were heartened to learn that the event benefits our non-profit organizations.



The day also included the beginning of Santa's visit. He arrived in a horse-drawn "sleigh" followed by many of his elves (local children in Santa hats). After settling on his beautiful throne, Santa began to talk with the children ... all ages ... with two to four legs. Yes, our pets are welcome to tell Santa what they want in their Christmas stockings!

*Continued on page 10*





An advance notice of the arrival of S. Claus began on Sunday, December 3, at 1 p.m. when more than 75 dedicated VFW Members, Auxiliary and volunteers again presented their annual Christmas Party in Grant Hall to nearly 150 Home Members and Hospital Residents.

## The Veterans of Foreign Wars begin the Holiday Parties

By Lou Zauner; photos by Glen Nock, Lou Zauner



The party, coinciding with the Sunday afternoon dance, included Larry Dent's dance band. The space in front of the bandstand twisted, gyrated and kept up with the rhythm of the talented music-makers. For those who preferred to remain seated at the tables, the melodies and vocals from the Big Band Era was entertainment enough between munching cookies, drinking punch and greeting the dignitaries.

After opening introductions by VFW Lodge 16 officers, Luverne Swennson, Chairman of the "Voice of Democracy" program, presented the award to Sebastopol High School student Jonathan Finn-Gamino. Jonathan, who competed with 9 other students to win the award, read his winning essay, "Freedom's Challenge," to the appreciative audience. Jonathan was also presented a check in the amount of \$600, after which Luverne Swennson quipped that Jonathan had received "six-hundred dollars for three-minutes of work" – the length of his presentation.

The VFW parties are distinguished by the vast variety of cookies served to the guests. Both bought and home-made--chocolates, vanillas, crispies, sugar-free, etcetera totaled over

*Continued on page 10*

*below: Bob Houchins, Jonathan Finn-Gamino, and Luverne Swennson.*







*VFW Party continued from page 9*

25 various sizes, shapes and flavors. Coffee and fruit punch was also available for the lines of eager cookie aficionados who consumed their fare seated at long tables.

The Veterans of Foreign Wars have given their annual Christmas Party to the Home since 1945. Robert Houchins, former State Commander, said he has attended each party for the past 50 years. A raffle is held at each gathering for funds which are used to host the annual event. For the devotion of the VFW to the Veterans Home and its Members, our sincere thanks and appreciation.



*Festival of Lights continued from page 8*

Every weekend through December 17<sup>th</sup> Vintage 1870 is hosting Pictures with Santa to benefit Yountville Elementary PTA, Napa Humane, Browns Valley Family Club, and the Senior Girl Scout Troop 217 of Napa. To further benefit charitable organizations, the shop owners of Vintage 1870 will donate a portion of their Sunday sales to designated nonprofit organizations.





## Want to Live in a C.A.V.E.?

*By Chris Williams*

The first weekend of the month is special to us during the school year. That's when the students from Chico State University come to visit and help with residential programs.

They concentrate their attention on the hospital, but they make mealtimes special in the Dining Hall as they fan out to chat with residents. C.A.V.E. stands for Community Action Volunteers in Education; it was begun at Chico State, and it's celebrating its fortieth birthday this year. Since its founding in 1966, the program has served as the model for others throughout the State University system. It remains the largest, using 2500 volunteers to serve 23 programs helping seniors, children, and the environment.

The atmosphere in the Dining Hall lightens immediately when the "kids from Chico" bounce into the room. They radiate out and make themselves a place at all the tables. They make a place for themselves in our hearts, too.



## Beale Air Force Base Supports Activities

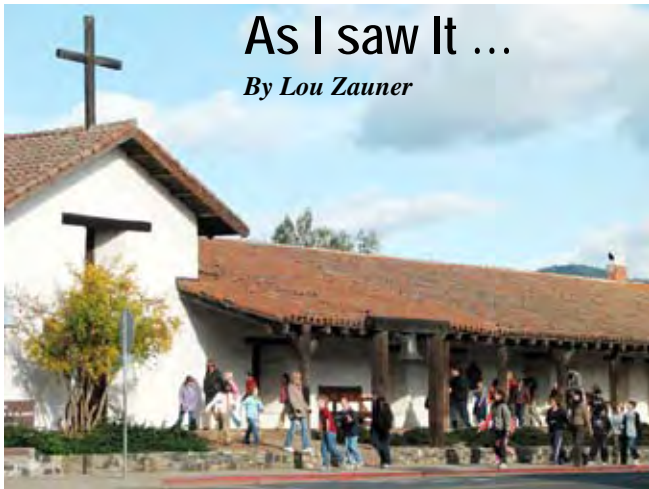


A leadership class at Beale Air Force base held a series of fund raisers to benefit Activities at the Veterans Home. If imagination is one of the qualities they will be graded on, they should do very well. They turned most of the recre-

ational centers there into money-makers. Among them was the "Bowl-a-Rama" in which supporters contributed a dime a pin.

The class (Patrick Arauto, Mark Murray, Adrian Flores, Sara Higgins, Chris Allen and Ryan Fabian) raised \$600 which they presented to Susan Heims. The group visited our dining hall for lunch and enjoyed a tour of the grounds.





## As I saw It ...

By Lou Zauner

above: Mission San Francisco Solano de Sonoma



General Vallejo, in 1834, was appointed Commandante in California by the Mexican government after conquering the area from the Spanish. At that time the Spanish were moving north while building missions and competing with Russia for control of Northern California. Lachryma Montis and the Petaluma Adobe were built by General Vallejo to maintain the 500 acre farm and house his wife and 16 children. As you will see in the photos, Lachryma Montis is most impressive.

The next stop on our tour was the *Black Bear Diner* in Sonoma, for lunch. The Diner has an extensive menu to accommodate everyone with generous servings or lighter fare. This popular family-style restaurant with approximately 30 restaurants in the Western US began in 1995 as a single restaurant located on a berry patch near Mt. Shasta. The restaurant was intentionally reminiscent of the original inn built by gold-pro prospector Sisson in 1861. The original Sisson inn overlooked the strawberry patches frequented by black bears – thus the name.

Our next history lesson was a visit to the Sonoma Mission – “Mission San Francisco Solano de Sonoma.” The site was selected by Father Jose Altimira in 1823 and by 1826 the building was generally completed. Father Buenaventura Fortuni presided from 1826 to 1833.

*Continued on page 13*

The *Sonoma Mission Tour* on Tuesday, November 28, was a great way to get reacquainted with a part of California History. Capably led by our escort, Jim Looney, the ten history buffs arrived at *Lachryma Montis* (translation: “Mountain Tears”) about 10:15 a.m. for the beginning of a “self-guided” tour in Sonoma. Lachryma Montis was the estate of General Mariano Guadalupe Vallejo, or, in simpler terms, “The Vallejo Home.”



Lachryma Montis



*Continued from page 12*

The church was started in 1827 and finished in 1832. By 1833 the mission included 30 buildings, including a wooden storehouse, workshops, a gristmill, an infirmary, a jail, a 27-room convent, living quarters for Native American girls, and houses for Native American and military families.

The self-guided tour (which meant everybody scattered out on their own--and some went into town for shopping) continued on to the Sonoma Barracks where General Vallejo housed his troops. In addition to a gift shop and picture display area, the theater features a 30-minute film presenting an excellent history of the Spanish Mission era and Vallejo's protection of "The Northern Frontier."

The Sonoma mission was the last in California which also makes it the northern most mission. It is also the only mission established under the Mexican Era. The history of the missions in California, as artistic as the buildings were, sadly resulted in decimating many of the indigenous Native American tribes because of cultural insensitivity and disease caused by the religious Spanish settlers. And after secularization, the settlers stripped the Sonoma mission of roof tiles and building materials to establish their own home. By 1839, only 6 years after completion, the Sonoma mission was in ruins.

Our bus departed at 2:30 p.m. for Home with the consensus that it had been a great day for a visit to the Town of Sonoma and its history. Thank you, Activity Department, for another of your thoughtful events.

## Senior Bingo Christmas Party

The annual Senior Bingo at the Yountville Community Center is Tuesday, December 12 from 2 to 5 pm. Gifts and refreshments are available.

Win from \$2 to \$100 Blackout!

Bring your own markers (or pennies). The party is "first come, first served" and the maximum capacity is 300.



*December 8, 2006*





# Good Readin'

## Holiday Reading

Many of us will receive books for Christmas. Some will be not-so-subtle hints about what or what not we should do. Some will be about pursuits we were interested in -- ten years ago. Others will offer a philosophy of life -- someone had an extra one they weren't using. Perhaps we should give ourselves a copy of the book we really like, particularly if we've lost the one we have -- or gave it away to someone who didn't really appreciate it.

After a quick look at Christmas books, we'll see what some others at the Home treasure. Do your grandchildren have a really good copy of *The Night Before Christmas* by Clement Clarke Moore? This is the story, from the 19<sup>th</sup> century, from which came many of our ideas about Christmas ... except the 'right jolly old elf'. The last Santa I saw was 6'4". Scared Brandy.

How about Dickens' *A Christmas Carol*? President Franklyn Roosevelt followed a tradition which many joined: each Christmas Eve, the family gathered around after dinner to hear a reading of the story. If you are beginning the holidays feeling like Scrooge, read it. You will feel as merry as Bob Cratchit by the end. By the way, Dickens, who should know, thought this the best thing he ever wrote. "God bless us every one!"

Now, let's turn our curiosity on our neighbors and find out what their favorite reading is. The rule is: "You can take only two books to a desert island. What would they be?" Three have already put the original Christmas story first:

1. The Bible,
  2. A dictionary (that would be handy)
- ...Karl Konzen

1. The Bible
  2. *Rise & Fall of the Third Reich* (now there's an odd couple)
- ...Robby Robinson

1. The Bible
  2. *Joy Street* by Parkinson Keys (new to me; lets check it out.)
- ...Dee Rosander

More next time. Happy holidays and happy reading!



## Video Library News

Thank you to S. Olson from Benecia for the generous contribution of 25 tapes!



# Important Veteran Legislation in Washington

*From Military.com*

## Senate Passes Record VA Funding Bill

Veterans across the nation will benefit from a record budget increase for a variety of construction projects for the military and Department of Veterans Affairs. The legislation, H.R. 5385 – the Military Construction/Veterans Affairs Appropriations Act – makes appropriations for the military quality of life functions of the Department of Defense, military construction, the Department of Veterans Affairs, and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2007, and for other purposes. The bill, yet to be agreed to by the House before going to the President to become law, provides nearly \$78 billion for the Department of Veterans Affairs, which is \$8.88 billion above the amount VA received last year.

## Bipartisan Effort Urged to Pass Veterans' Bills

House Committee on Veterans Affairs Chairman Steve Buyer (R-Ind.) has urged colleagues on both sides of the aisle to work together to pass H.R. 6314, which would expand one existing Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) education, the provision of health care services for veterans exposed to chemical and biological testing under Projects 112 and SHAD, and treatment and rehabilitation programs for homeless veterans and those with serious mental illnesses. It would also extend VA's Advisory Committee on Homeless Veterans until December 31, 2007 and extend VA's homeless grant and per diem program until September 30, 2007.

## Public Warned About E-mail Scam

*From Military.com*

Social Security has issued a warning about a new email scam message that is being circulated with the subject "Cost-of-Living for 2007 update." The message redirects the reader to a website designed to look like Social Security's Internet website. Once directed to the phony website, the individual is asked register by giving personal information such as the individual's Social Security number, bank account information and credit card information. To report receipt of this email message or other suspicious activity to Social Security's Office of Inspector General (OIG), call the OIG Hotline at 1-800-269-0271. A Public Fraud Reporting form is also available online at OIG's website at <http://www.socialsecurity.gov/oig>

### 2007 Holiday Schedule (offices closed)

Monday, January 1	New Year's Day
Monday, January 15	Martin Luther King Jr. Day
Monday, February 12	Lincoln's Birthday
Monday, February 19	Washington's Birthday
Saturday, March 31	Cesar Chavez Day
Monday, May 28	Memorial Day
Wednesday, July 4	Independence Day
Monday, September 3	Labor Day
Monday, October 8	Columbus Day
Monday, November 12	Veteran's Day *
Thursday, November 22	Thanksgiving Day
Friday, November 23	Day after Thanksgiving
Tuesday, December 25	Christmas Day

\* When a holiday falls on a Sunday, it is observed the following Monday.





It wouldn't be Christmas without it. This tradition is not of long standing; it was first produced by the San Francisco Ballet in 1944. The Napa Regional Dance Company will bring their sixth production to Lincoln Theater on December 16<sup>th</sup> at 12:30 and 6 p.m. and the 17<sup>th</sup> at two p.m. Many regional companies employ outside 'stars' to hype attendance. The Napa company will reach for its own graduates, instead. We can expect a fresh and energetic presentation.

Carlo Sierra, who returns from the Oakland Ballet and the San Francisco Opera, says, "It will be so encouraging for the students to

perform in a professional venue like the Lincoln Theater." Executive Director Wanda McGill is delighted to see these returnees, "Since NRDC was established in 1988, these returning alumni keep the tradition alive."

Nutcracker can give you any experience you want. You can see it as a confection of color and movement for children. Or, you can sense the sadness of Clara moving into womanhood, reluctant to leave the joys of her childhood behind.

## Veterans Home Employee Christmas Party

**Date:** Friday, December 15<sup>th</sup>

**Time:** 6:00 pm to Midnight

**Place:** Napa Elks Lodge on Soscol Ave.

**Dinner** at 6:30 pm is Roast Beef with all the trimming.

**Dancing** to "The Treatment" from 7:00 pm to Midnight.

*No Host Bar – Door Prizes*

Tickets are \$25 each (cash only please) and can be purchased from Lori Cantu or Linda White in Transportation; Jane Moore in Annex II; Margie Patterson, Susan McDaniel or Lisa Accettola in Residential Care; Laurie Beauflis in Purchasing; or Dorothy Eliason in Administration.

## 50/50 Raffle supports Safe Ride Home

Drinking and driving is, or should always be a concern on safe driver's mind. Employee Christmas party committee members have also expressed this concern, and have decided to have a 50/50 raffle to raise funds for a safe ride home.

Raffle tickets are \$1.00 each or 6 for \$5.00. And will be sold by Lori Cantu, Linda White and Maria Russell in the Transportation Department. The drawing will be held at the Christmas Party on December 15<sup>th</sup>. You need not be present to win.

Thank you in advance for all of your support!





# NAPA VALLEY MUSEUM

As part of the Napa Valley Museum's mission to promote the artistic, cultural and environmental heritage of the Valley, we offer unique educational and public programs for children and adults throughout the year.

Wednesday,  
December 13  
8 am to 3 pm

**Passport to the Arts Bus Trip and Docent-led Tour - California As Muse: The Art of Arthur & Lucia Mathews** At the Oakland Museum As masters of the California Decorative Style, the Mathews were pre-eminent in the artistic life of San Francisco at the turn of the century. This retrospective includes more than 150 works by the Mathews, including murals, paintings, drawings, graphic design and illustrations, frames, furniture and decorative objects from their collaborative designs for the Furniture Shop. \$35 for members/\$45 for non-members. Call 707.944.0500 for reservations by December 10.

Saturday,  
December 16  
10 am to 12 pm

**Family Workshop: Recycled Snow Globes and Ornaments** with Eco-Artist Constance Shipman Learn how to make holiday snow globes and ornaments from recycled jars and light bulbs. Children are encouraged to attend this hands-on event with their family to create a holiday keepsake. Bring old light bulbs, glass jars with lids and decorative items such as felt, string and ribbon along with a small waterproof ornament or figurine to put in your snow globe. Free with admission. Call 707.944.0500 for reservations.

*Hours: Open Wednesday through Monday, 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Closed Tuesdays and the following holidays: Thanksgiving Day/Day After Thanksgiving; Christmas Eve/Christmas Day; New Year's Eve/New Year's Day*

## A Novel Way to Recycle Magazines

Lincoln Library and the HRA Library desperately need magazines for the Home Members! Our libraries provide free, give-away magazines at Lincoln Library, the HRA Library, the ACC/Lobby areas of Holderman and on our book carts to members in higher care and the wards. The Members really enjoy this service and lately we have none to offer. Please consider donating your old magazines to Lincoln Library. Just leave them at the Circulation Desk any time.

Thanks, Ann Snow

## Travis Brass Quintet visits Home

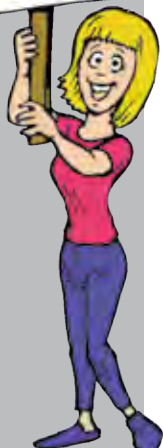
The Travis Brass Quintet, resident brass quintet of the *USAF Band of the Golden West* based at Travis AFB, will be playing in the Hospital Recreation Area beginning at 1:30 pm on Friday, December 15<sup>th</sup>.

The Quintet's wide-ranging programs, spanning musical history from medieval times to the contemporary sounds of today, have enthralled audiences throughout the western U.S.





sign up  
early



## Residential Care Special Events

*Sign up early! Activities can fill quickly.*

December					
Date	Time	Event	Bus	Site	Signup
8 Fri	9:00 am	CalVet Board Meeting		GH	
	4:30 pm	Napa Elks Holiday Dinner	F		Yes
	5:00 pm		MBS		
9 Sat	8:00 am	Peddler's Fair		GH	
	10:00 am	Caroling: Boy Scouts in Eisenhower & McKinley			
10 Sun	1:00 pm	American Legion Holiday Party		HRA	
12 Tue	8:30 am	San Francisco: Union Sq. Shopping	MBS		Yes
	9:00 am	Humboldt American Legion Party in Holderman Hospital			
13 Wed	9:00 am	Allied Council		GH	
14 Thu	10:00 am	Remembrance		Chp	
15 Fri	1:30 pm	Travis AFB Brass Quintet		HRA	
	5:30 pm	Christmas Lights Drive	MDR		Yes
16 Sat	12:30 pm	Nutcracker		LT	Yes
	6:00 pm	Nutcracker		LT	Yes
17 Sun	1:00 pm	DAV Holiday Party		GH	
	2:00 pm	Nutcracker		LT	Yes
19 Tue	9:00 am	Christmas Caroling in the Hospital			
22 Fri	5:30 pm	Christmas Lights Drive	MDR		Yes
23 Sat	5:30 pm	Christmas Lights Drive	MDR		Yes
25 Mon		Merry Christmas (Offices Closed)			
29 Fri		Travis decorates for New Year's Eve festivities			
	5:30 pm	Warriors Game	MDR		Yes
31 Sun	6:00 pm	New Years Eve Party		GH	



*Activities can change due to bus/driver availability, check with the Activities Office for the status of a trip.  
Key – 1C/1D: Hospital 1C/1D patio; Bor: Borman Field; Chp: Chapel; GH: Grant Hall; GR: Games Room;  
HL: Hospital Lobby; HRA: Hospital Recreation Area; LL: Lee Lounge; LT: Lincoln Theater; MBS: Main  
Bus Stop; MDR: Main Dining Room; MPG: Main Picnic Grounds; SF: San Francisco; TAV: Tavern;  
VHC: Veterans Home Cemetery; VGC: Vintners Golf Course; VHL: Veterans Home Lanes; XII: Annex II;  
Ynt: Yountville; YVP: Yountville Veterans Park.*

## Last Shopping Day before Christmas

That's right! There is only one more shopping day at the Peddlers Faire before Christmas – 8:00 am to 1:00 pm in Grant Hall on Saturday, December 9<sup>th</sup>.

## Wheelchair Bags Coming

Lillian's Green Thumb will be here on December 27<sup>th</sup> to pass out wheelchair bags. Could we get a little add in the Grapevine nearest that time? She will be in the ACC lobby from 10 to 11 a.m. and at the MDR from 11 a.m. to 12 p.m.





# MOVIE NIGHT IN GRANT HALL

## Fri, Dec 8 – “The Miracle Worker”

This is an updated film of the classic true story of Helen Keller, her family and her teacher Annie Sullivan. Helen who had been unable to speak, hear or see since early childhood becomes increasingly difficult to educate until her parents find Annie Sullivan. Through Sullivan’s strong will and unshakable faith, Helen discovers how to survive and thrive in the world through the eyes and ears of others. She becomes one of the most remarkable women in American history. The cast includes Hallie Eisenberg as Helen Keller and Alison Eliott as Annie Sullivan. An above average inspiring film.

## Wed, Dec 13 – “You’re in the Navy Now”

This 1951 movie is a comedy set in WWII and stars Gary Cooper, Jane Greer, Eddie Albert, Harry Von Zyll, Lee Marvin, Jack Webb and Charles Bronson. Cooper is cast as the captain commanding a dumb crew on the small, modern steam powered ship dubbed the U.S.S. Teakettle. An above average entertainment with a good cast of characters.

## Fri, Dec 15 – “An Inconvenient Truth”

This new (2005) documentary features Al Gore with an interesting and informative presentation of global warming. This is a persuasive warning about the consequences of continued inaction regarding the global suspects causing global warming. The film is considered this year’s best documentary.

## Wed, Dec 20 – “It’s a Wonderful Life”

A 1946 classic Christmas time movie starring James Stewart, Donna Reed, Lionel Barrymore, Thomas Mitchell, Henry Travers, Ward Bond and Ellen Corby. A sentimental tale of Stewart who works all his life to make good in a small town and thinking he is a failure, he attempts to end his life. He is rescued by Clarence, a guardian angel who shows him his mistake. Said to improve with age, the film has recently been voted one of the most inspirational movies of all time. ☆☆☆☆

## Fri, Dec 22 – “Fantasia”

This 1940 Walt Disney color film is an eight-part, 2-hour marriage of music and animated images. This film was, and remains, an amazing achievement. Highlights include “The Sorcerer’s Apprentice” with Mickey Mouse, “The Dance of the Hours” with dancing hippos and alligators, and “Rite of Spring” with dinosaurs stalking the earth. This visually and musically extraordinary motion picture is among the great films of the past 65 years. ☆☆☆☆



**GRANT HALL**  
Theater doors  
open at 5:15 pm  
Wednesdays &  
Fridays

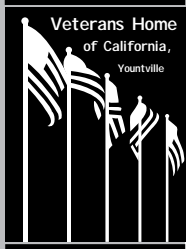
Special selected  
presentations at  
5:30 pm

Feature Film  
begins at 6:00 pm

The Digital  
Theater is  
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and AMVETS

*Neil Remnant,*

*Movie  
Coordinator*

The AMVETS Service Foundation logo is a circular emblem. It has a red outer ring with the words "AMERICAN VETERANS" in white. Inside the ring is a purple circle with a white silhouette of a soldier standing with a rifle. The word "AMVETS" is written in large, bold, yellow letters across the center of the purple circle. The entire logo is surrounded by a wreath of yellow leaves.

The *Veterans Home Media Program* gratefully acknowledges the generosity of the *AMVETS Service Foundation* in supporting *KVET TV*, the *Grapevine*, and the *Veterans History Program*.

## GRAPEVINE

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